

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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Jersey City Officials Release Information About Swine Flu Precautions and Outreach Civilian Emergency Responders Recently Conducted Training in Disease Spreading Prevention Readiness

JERSEY CITY - Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, the **Office of Emergency Management**, the **Department of Health and Human Services**, local **emergency medical representatives**, and **public and private school representatives** will outline what precautions residents should take if they come in contact with someone who has symptoms or the H1N1 virus, commonly known as **Swine Flu**. Jersey City will provide preventive measures that residents should take when dealing with the H1N1 virus infection.

“By combining the efforts of public health officials on all levels, we combine our strengths and knowledge of the H1N1 virus and what precautions need to be taken,” said **Mayor Healy**. “In Jersey City, we have taken the proactive measures of educating our public and private school health officials, as well as reaching out to the community at large. We are also working with the county, as well as with health and emergency management officials in other cities in the region.”

In addition to outreach and preventative measures, the city has also acquired latex gloves, hand-sanitizer and N95 masks to prevent the spread of disease should the H1N1 virus reach Jersey City. The city is also distributing flyers with the recommended preventative measures in several languages, including English, Spanish, Tagalog, and Hindi, for our multi-cultural community.

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Just ten days ago, the **Office of Emergency Management** in conjunction with the **Hudson County Regional Health Commission** conducted a catastrophe emergency response and disease spreading prevention readiness drill. This drill was designed to assess the prevention of diseases or points of distribution of health services that include treatments and medical services for mass victims during a large scale crisis or emergency. This multi-agency collaborative effort combined the expertise and resources of local, county, and state entities. This drill enabled Jersey City to share information, target the most at risk residents, conduct educational programs, and outline preventive measures.

The eight-hour drill, dubbed the Mass Prophylaxis Drill, or the preventing of disease, was designed to assess the P.O.D.'s, or points of distribution of health services that include treatments and medicals for mass victims during a large-scale crisis or emergency.

The C.E.R.T. program, the Community Emergency Response Team volunteers practiced various roles during the exercise, some playing victims while others will managed the six stations and assisted in distribution of "mock" medications and general responsibilities.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.

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